Creating A Greener Energy Future For the Commonwealth

DOER

Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources

RPS Solar Carve-Out

Solar Credit Clearinghouse

- Qualification Application
- Aggregations
- Metering and Reporting
- Independent Verification

Webinar

January 21, 2010

RPS Solar Carve-Out
Overview and Updates

- DOER filed Emergency Regulations on 1/8/2010 to establish program and compliance obligation starting 1/1/2010.
- DOER will prepare final regulations and pursue a 30A regulatory process, including Public Hearings in February. Final regulations should be promulgated by May 2010.
- DOER is working closely with the MA Clean Energy Center / Renewable Energy Trust to prepare for the implementation of the Solar Carve-Out.
- DOER will soon update its website to provide detailed program design and implementation Guidance to the market.
- DOER will soon make available its web-based Statement of Qualification Application.

Outline of Presentation

Topics

- How do you get Qualified for the RPS Solar Carve-Out and Generate SRECs?
- What is the role of Aggregations and how do you become an Aggregator?
- What are the Required Metering and Data Reporting Protocols?
- How is metered data Verified?

How does a project get qualified for the program and generate and sell SRECs?

- All solar PV projects must be qualified by DOER to generate SRECs.
- Projects are either qualified as an **Independent Project** or as a member project of an **Aggregation**.
- All Qualified Generators (Independent or Aggregators) must register and open a NEPOOL Generation Information System (GIS) account (see www.nepoolgis.com).
- Generators qualified by DOER will be enabled to "generate" SRECs for verified solar generation reported to the GIS.
  - SRECs are minted by the GIS quarterly and quarterly trading periods ensue. SRECs can be rolled over in a generators account from one quarter to another, but must be disposed by the end of the 4th Quarter trading period.
- Generators are responsible for marketing their SRECs to buyers. Once a deal is completed, both parties must approve transfer of SRECs from the seller's GIS Account to the buyer's GIS Account.
  - Buyers can include compliance entities (regulated and competitive Retail Electricity Suppliers), brokers, and other parties.
  - SRECs can be sold in the spot market or under long-term contracts.

How does a project submit a Statement of Qualification Application (SQA)

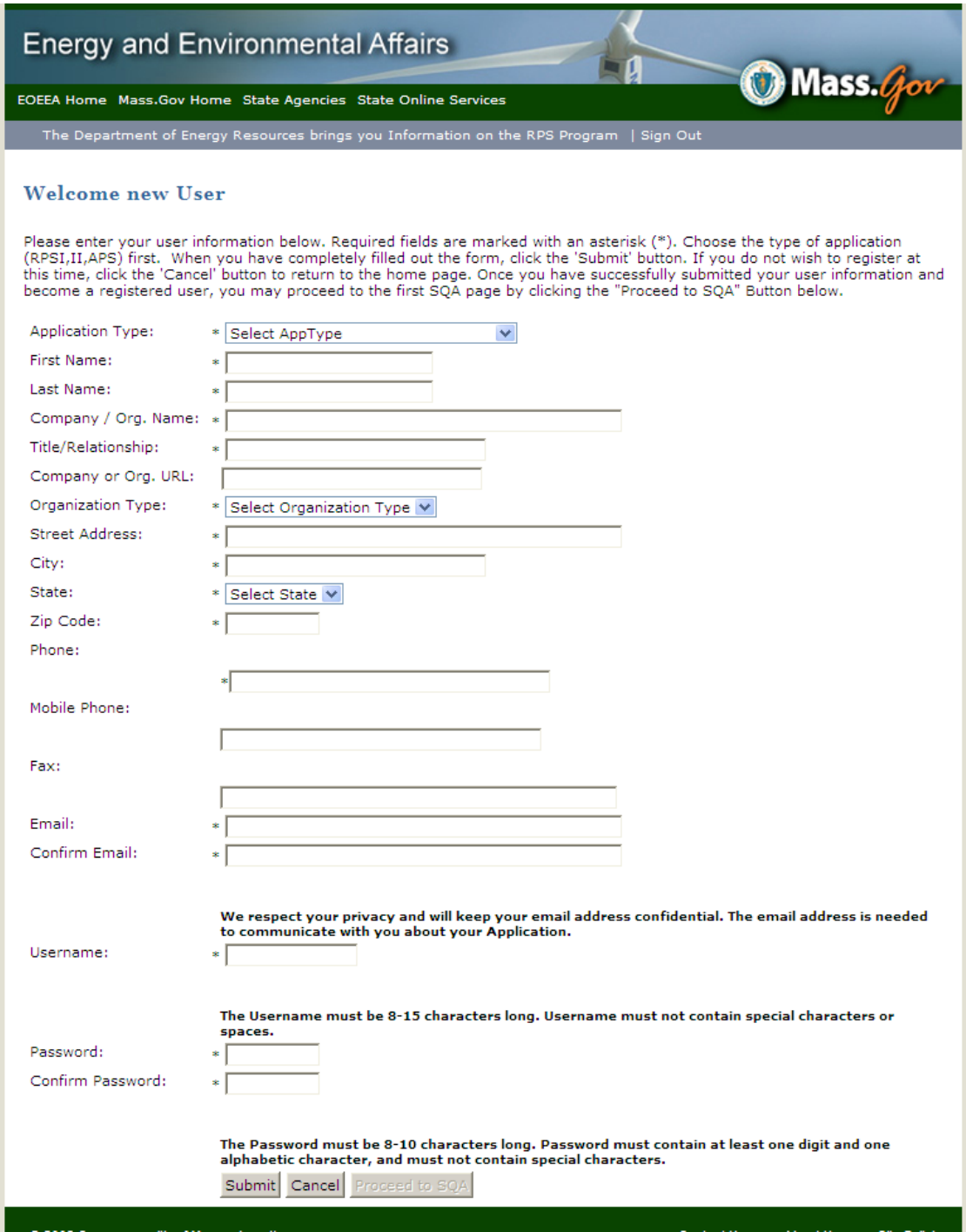
- A Project is either qualified as:
  - An **Independent Project** with its own NEPOOL GIS Account
  - A member project of an **Aggregation**
- Independent Project
  - Submit SQA to DOER
  - Register/Open NEPOOL GIS Account
  - Prepare to market SRECs
- Aggregations
  - Aggregations must include only solar PV projects eligible for the RPS Solar Carve-Out. Each project may be of any size (but still 2 MW or less).
  - Establish contractual arrangements with member projects
  - Submit SQA to DOER for first set of member projects
  - Register/Open Aggregator's NEPOOL GIS Account
  - Prepare to market SRECs
  - Submit report to DOER identifying new member projects, within one month of new project commercial operation.

Statement of Qualification Application (SQA) Process

- SQA will be available at DOER website by the end of January. SQAs must be filed electronically using this web-based application.

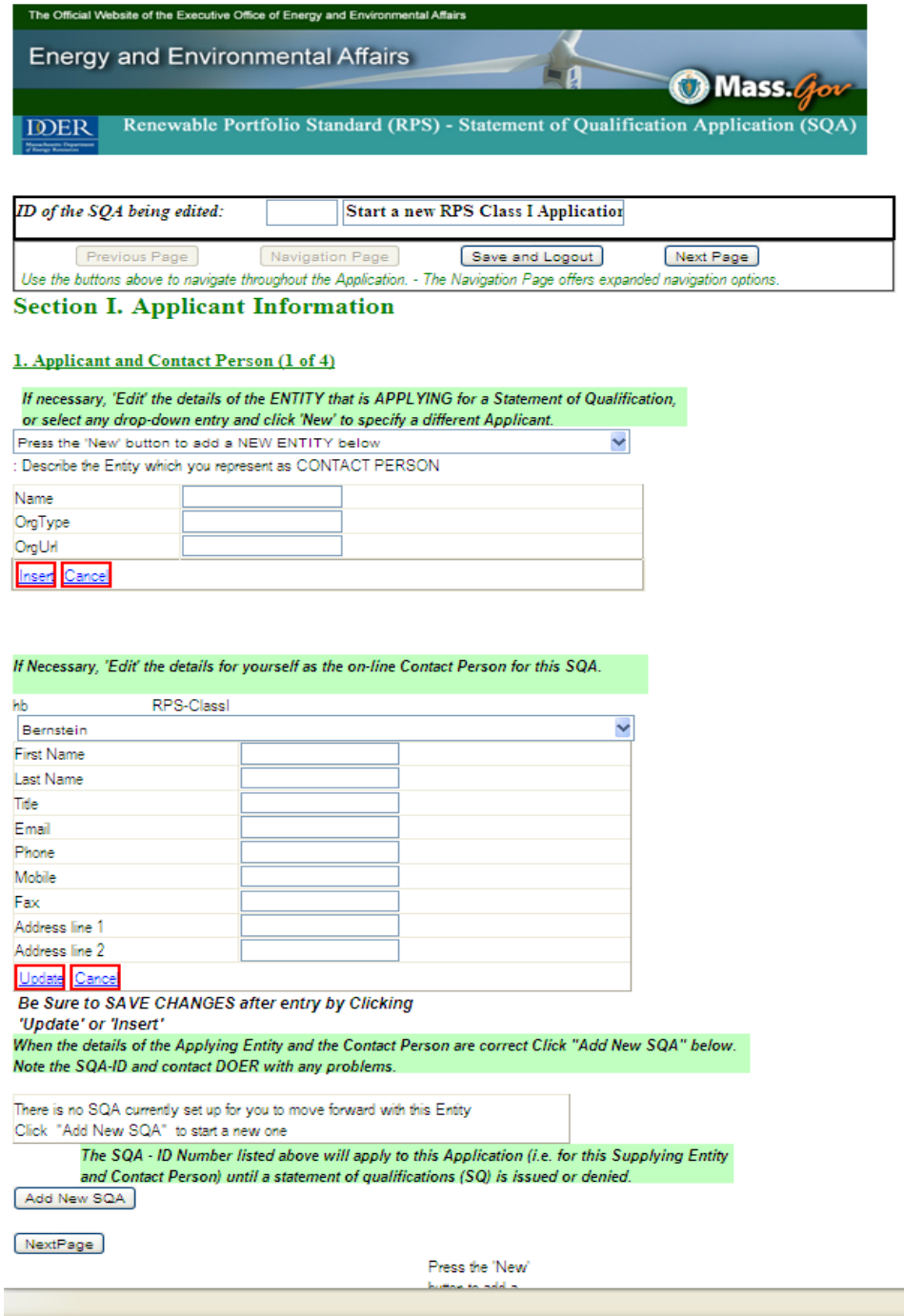
- DOER will review applications and provide Statement of Qualification for approved projects within approximately 30 days.

- Qualified Aggregators must add additional member projects to their Aggregations using a short form listing new project information. DOER will provide a form for this purpose.



Statement of Qualification Application Form

User Registration



Statement of Qualification Application Form

Applicant Information

re For the Commonwealth

DOER
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources

Statement of Qualification Application Form

Other Pages

Generation Unit Information
Generation Unit Technical Details
Certification by the Authorized Agent

Metering and Data Reporting Requirements

- All generation from qualified solar PV projects must be individually metered and reported.
- <u>Metering Requirement</u>
  - As per NEPOOL GIS rules, all projects must utilize a *revenue grade* meter from which generation data is to be reported.
  - DOER welcomes stakeholder input regarding appropriate changes to this metering requirement.
- <u>Reporting Requirements</u>
  - Projects less than or equal to 10 kW (dc)
    - Data can be reported manually or automatically
  - Projects greater than 10 kW (dc)
    - Data must be reported electronically and automatically through a Data Acquisition System
- DOER will seek stakeholder input regarding these requirements for consideration in final rulemaking.

Data Reporting Procedures

All data must be reported to the Production Tracking System (PTS) managed by the MA Clean Energy Center / Renewable Energy Trust, which serves as the Independent Verifier.

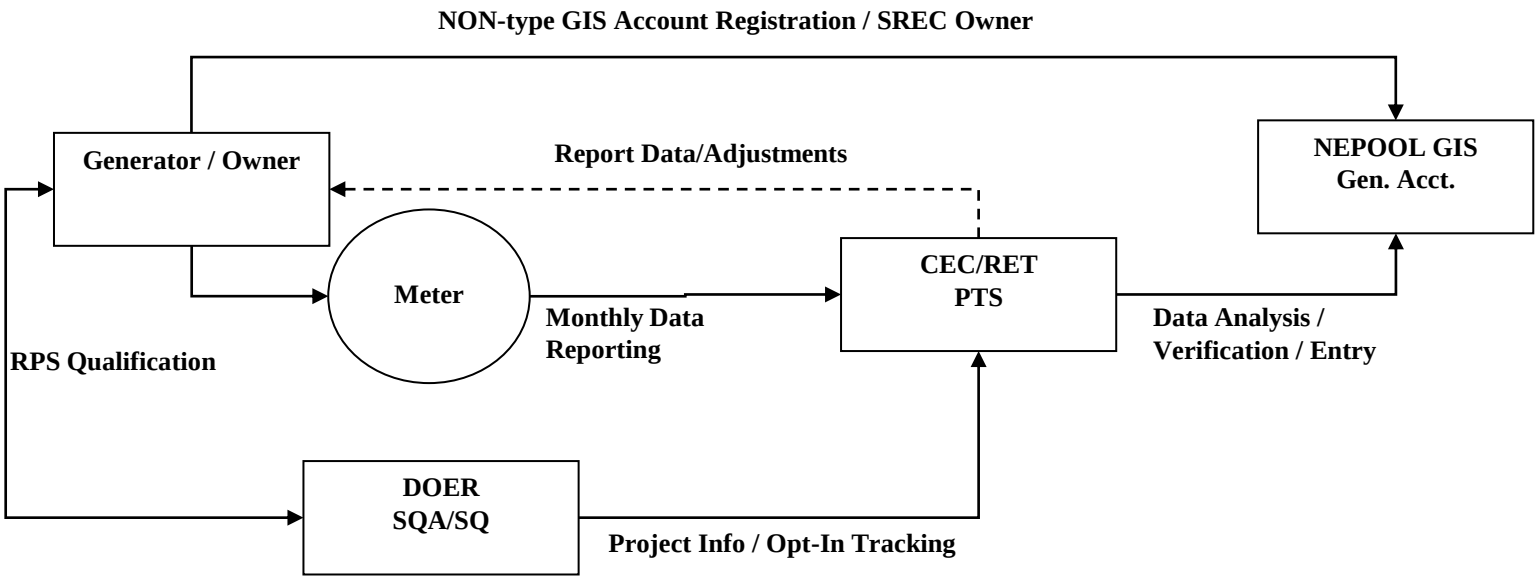
- Upon a project's qualification by DOER, DOER will inform CEC/RET to establish a PTS project account.
- Data must be reported to the generator's PTS account, by the generator owner or its agent. *Aggregators may serve as owner's agent.*
- Data from member projects of Aggregations must be reported individually.
- Data must be reported monthly, during an open reporting period 5 days prior to the end of each month and 5 days after the beginning of each month.
- Penalty for Not Reporting: For the proper function of the SREC market and program annual adjustments, accuracy and completeness of generation data are critical. Projects which do not report their metered data during the open reporting period will face penalties.

Independent Data Verification

- The Production Tracking System (PTS) managed by the MA Clean Energy Center / Renewable Energy Trust is the *sole* and *required* independent verifier for the RPS Solar Carve-Out program.
- All metered data must be reported to the PTS monthly.
- CEC/RET will verify reported data and identify out-of-bounds data and any unusual reporting.
- CEC/RET will establish a Verifier Account on the NEPOOL GIS and report verified data to Generators' and Aggregators' GIS Accounts for quarterly SREC minting in time for the quarterly trading periods.
- CEC/RET maintains the right, but not the obligation, to inspect any qualified project and meters.

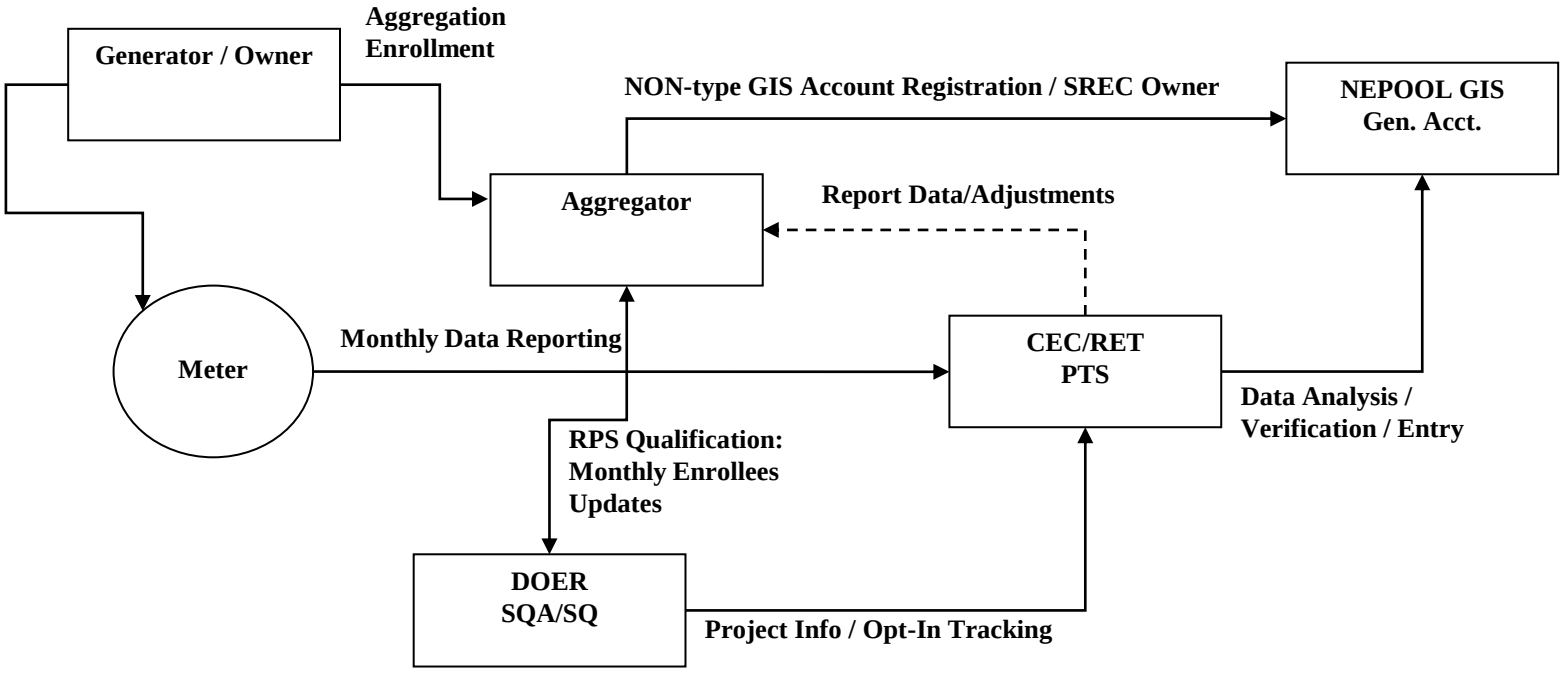
Summary Schematic for System Qualification, Metering, Reporting, and Verification

Independent Project



Summary Schematic for System Qualification, Metering, Reporting, and Verification

Member Project of Aggregation



Let the SREC Show Begin

Please review RPS Solar Carve-Out website Guidance and Application Forms when they become available.

Additional questions can be directed to DOER at:

DOER.SREC@state.ma.us

(will be available in a few days)